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MIRACLES BY A BLIND MAN

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MIRACLES BY A BLIND MAN

A SIGHTLESS SURGEON WHO PERFORMS DELICATE OPERATIONS.

ENJOYS AN EXTENSIVE PRACTICE

He is Not Only an Excellent Surgeon But a Clever Oculist, an Ardent Bicyclist, Authority on Hypnotism and a Talented Musician—Been Blind Nearly All His Life.

A miraculous achievement showiug the wonderful adaptability of the human being to obstacles is that of a blind man who is an expert surgeou, says the New York Journal. In Boston there is a famous practitioner who performs the uost delicate surgical operations, in spite of the faet that he has been blind frou infancy.

This unfortunate but marvelously gifted man is James R. Cocke, a physician and surgeou who enjoys an enviable reputation and a very exteusive practice in Boston. Dr. Cocke is a man of undoubted talent and great force of character. He would have carved out a proud reputation for himself in any walk of life. This is demonstrated by the fact that he is not only a master surgeon and physiciau, but also a clever oculist, a deft massage operator, a psychologist of a high order, an authority on hypnotism, a writer on socialism, a talented musician, a convincing lecturer, an athlete and an ardent bicyclist.

Such a variety of kuowledge and attainments is seldom possessed by those blessed with the full complement of seuses; but here is a man scarcely 30, who has been sightless for twenty-eight years, aud yet is an expert along certain lines of special study to any one of which other men, endowed with all of uature's gifts, devote a whole lifetime.

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Dr. Cocke lost the sight of both eyes completely at the early age of 2 years. He was a stroug, healthy child, and up to that time was favored with a keeu vision. His misfortune was the result of the improper administration of medicine for some infantile ill, the result of a physician's carelessness.

At 11 years of age young Cocke was placed in an institution for the blind, and, beiug of a naturally studious, ambitious nature, soon outstripped his classmates in learning. Then he yearned for a more thorough education than could be attained by the methods employed at the school, and his guardians had him transferred to a public school. Even here, although placed in competition with youths who were without the haudicap that nature and accident had forced upou him, he had little difficulty in maintaining his place at the head of the class. His senses of hearing and touch became so wonderfully developed that as he moved naturally and easily among his fellow-pupils many of the latter doubted the geuuiueness of his affliction. But, as young Cocke felt often to his bitter sorrow, the affliction was only too real.

At the age of 21, it having become necessary that Cocke should earn his own living, he studied the science of massage as a profession, for his delicacy of touch earned for him both reputation and money. His proficiency iu treating the most sensitive parts of the body frequently prompted physicians to instruct him with the treatment of the eyeballs.

He entered upon the studies of his future calling, and, contrary to the advice of members of the medical fraternity, eventually gained admission to the Boston University School of Medicine. Here he showed wonderful aptitude for surgery. He overcame the obstacle of study by having an assistant read to him a number of hours each day. Finally he graduated at the head of his class.

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Overcoming all obstacles and prejudices, the "blind doctor" gathered patients about him. After a few years of practice and study and research Dr. Cocke [illegible]ism, until it

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